

Second Draft - 4 April 1947.

Mr. Chairman and Members of this Committee: My appearance before your Committee this morning is in support of Section 202 of the proposed National Security Act of 1947. This section of the bill provides the United States for the first time in our history, with a central intelligence service created by act of Congress. Our present organization, the Central Intelligence Group — which I have the privilege of heading — has been in existence since January, 1946, by authority of an Executive Directive of the President of Britain. Since the day that the Central Intelligence Group was established, the Directors of Central Intelligence — my predecessor and I — have looked forward to the day when we could come before the Congress, and request permanent status through legislative enactment. That day has arrived. I sincerely urge adoption of this section of the bill. The United States must have an intelligence organization second to none. In order to perform our share in maintaining the national security in times of peace, to be forwarded against possible acts of aggression, to be armed against disaster in an atomic age; we must have full knowledge of the intentions and capabilities of the other nations, ~~as revealed~~, ~~expressed~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~work~~ ~~we~~ ~~had~~ ~~broken~~ ~~the~~ ~~secret~~ ~~Japanese~~ ~~codes~~. Some of the work we are doing makes it undesirable — from the standpoint of security — to discuss certain activities with too much freedom. I feel that the people of this country, having experienced the disaster